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HB 3442 HD 1 RELATING TO FISHING

Statement for House Committee on
Judiciary
February 23, 1990

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HB 3442 HD 1 would make it unlawful to use gill nets in any embayment estuaries and fishing conservation area in the state.

Our statement on this bill does not represent an institutional position of the University of Hawaii.

As recognized in the Standing Committee Report No. 258-90, gill nets are largely non-selective of the fish they catch and therefore can be most destructive to non-targeted species that are caught and often die before they can be released. The amendments to HB 3442 as proposed in HD 1 will improve the ability of the Department of Land and Natural Resources to enforce the restrictions on the use of gill nets by clarifying the specific boundaries of the estuaries and fishing conservations areas where the use of such nets is to be prohibited.

We concur with the amendments proposed in HB 3442 HD 1.